

OPINION 2146 (Case 3266)***Palaeortyx phasianoides* Milne-Edwards, 1869 (Aves, Galliformes):
usage of the specific name conserved by the designation of a neotype**

Abstract. The Commission has ruled that the current usage of the name *Palaeortyx phasianoides* Milne-Edwards, 1869 is conserved for a species of fossil quail from the Miocene (family PHASIANIDAE) by the designation of a neotype.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Aves; Galliformes; PHASIANIDAE; *Palaeortyx phasianoides*; quails; Miocene; Europe.

Ruling

- (1) Under the plenary power it is ruled that all previous type fixations for the nominal species *Palaeortyx phasianoides* Milne-Edwards, 1869 are hereby set aside and the scapula from Saint-Gérand-le-Puy, France (specimen no. MNHN Av 2895 in the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris) is designated as the neotype.
- (2) The name *phasianoides* Milne-Edwards, 1869, as published in the binomen *Palaeortyx phasianoides* and as defined by the neotype designated in (1) above, is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.

History of Case 3266

An application to conserve the current usage of the name *Palaeortyx phasianoides* Milne-Edwards, 1869 for a species of fossil quail from the Miocene (family PHASIANIDAE) by the designation of a neotype was received from U.B. Göhlich (*Department für Umwelt- und Geowissenschaften, Sektion Paläontologie, Munich, Germany*) and C. Mourer-Chauviré (*Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1, Centre des Sciences de la Terre, Villeurbanne Cedex, France*) on 1 February 2003. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 60: 211–214 (September 2003). The title, abstract and keywords of the case were published on the Commission's website. Comments in support of the application were published in BZN 61: 117, 176. One comment opposing the application was published in BZN 61: 117–119, to which the authors' reply was published in BZN 61: 174–176.

Decision of the Commission

On 1 September 2005 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 60: 213. At the close of the voting period on 1 December 2005 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes – 15: Bock, Bouchet, Brothers, Fortey, Halliday, Kerzhner, Lamas, Macpherson, Mahnert, Mawatari, Minelli, Nielsen, Papp, Rosenberg and Song.

Negative votes – 4: Alonso-Zarazaga, Patterson, Štys and van Tol.

Calder abstained.

No vote was received from Ng.

Voting against, Alonso-Zarazaga commented: 'if the authors of the application are so sure of their identification of the problematic lectotype, why do they not apply priority and ask instead for a neotype designation whose only visible result is the conservation of the very recent name *Ameripodius alexis* Mourer-Chauviré, 2000? I therefore consider that the lectotype designation must stand, with all its consequences. The zoological group is important only for a few palaeontologists who can assume easily the nomenclatural changes'.

Original references

The following is the original reference to the name placed on an Official List by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

phasianoides, *Palaeortyx*, Milne-Edwards, 1869, *Recherches anatomiques et paléontologiques pour servir à l'histoire des oiseaux fossiles de la France*, vol. 2, p. 237.